

Message Text

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44

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 ISO-00 IOE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /103 W

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P 241711Z MAY 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7639

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2234

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, US, WA, BR

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA AND BRAZIL

1. BRAZILIAN MINISTER BUENO CALLED ON MISOFF MAY 21, TO DISCUSS AFRICAN ISSUES IN GENERAL. BUENO OBSERVED THAT ON MAY 19, NAMIBIAN NATIONAL CONVENTION REP RIRUAKO HAD CALLED BRAZILIAN PERM REP TO PRESENT HIMSELF AND TO STATE THAT DURING RECENT MEETING AT US MISSION, USUN MISOFF HAD SUGGESTED THAT BRAZIL MIGHT WISH TO ENGAGE HERSELF MILITARILY IN SUPPORT OF AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA WHICH MIGHT ARISE FROM CURRENT CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE. ACCORDING TO BUENO, RIRUAKO SAID HE HAD TOLD HIM THAT US WOULD BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT BRAZILIAN EFFORTS, IN ORDER TO DEVELOP A COUNTER BALANCE TO CUBAN MENACE. FURTHER, RIRUAKO REPORTEDLY TOLD BRAZILIANS THAT IT WOULD BE WISE FOR RIRUAKO'S LEADER, CHIEF KAPUUO, TO CALL ON BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT GEISEL, IN JUNE.

2. MISOFF TOLD BUENO THAT RIRUAKO'S STATEMENT CONSTITUTED A BLATANT LIE. IN FACT, EVEN THE WORD "BRAZIL" WAS NOT MENTIONED IN ANY CONVERSATION WHICH WE HAVE HAD WITH
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RIRUAKO. FURTHER, MISOFF SAID THAT HE WOULD BE CONTACTING

RIRUAKO IMMEDIATELY TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT.

3. BUENO REPLIED THAT HE HAD BEEN SURE THAT THIS WAS THE CASE, BUT HAD SIMPLY WANTED TO DOUBLE CHECK WITH US, AND WAS VERY SATISFIED WITH OUR EXPLANATION.

4. MISOFF LATER TELEPHONED RIRUAKO, AND STATED IN STRONGEST TERMS OUR UNHAPPINESS OVER HIS INVENTING AND DISSEMINATING HIS FALSE STORY, WHICH HAD CAUSED US CONSIDERABLE EMBARRASSMENT. RIRUAKO APOLOGIZED PROFUSELY, ADMITTED HE HAD NEVER DISCUSSED THE MATTER AT USUN OR WITH A USUN OFFICER, FEIGNED THAT HE HAD MENTIONED SUCH A SUBJECT "IN WASHINGTON", AND AGREED TO TELEPHONE BUENO TO APOLOGIZE. SUBSEQUENTLY, MISOFF CHECKED WITH BUENO TO SEE IF HE HAD HEARD FROM RIRUAKO. BUENO REPLIED THAT RIRUAKO HAD INDEED TRIED TO CONTACT HIM BUT THAT HE WOULD "LET RIRUAKO STEW FOR A WHILE". BUENO ADDED THAT AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED, THE CASE WAS NOW CLOSED.
BENNETT

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